

# IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

## OFFICIAL MINUTES

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September 7, 2006

A meeting of the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission (ECC) was held on this date in the Blackfoot City Hall, 157 North Broadway Street. Vice-Chairman Wills called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Rich Wills, State Representative, Commission Vice-Chairman  
Teresa Baker, Ada County Prosecutor's Office  
Clint Berry, Qwest, Boise  
Ann Cronin, Special Assistant, Idaho State Police, Commission Secretary (via telephone)  
Joanna Guilfooy, Deputy Attorney General and Ex-Officio Member (via telephone)  
Troy Hagen, Director, Ada County Paramedics  
Jim Lemm, J&R Electronics, Inc., Coeur d'Alene (via telephone)  
Kevin Quick, Chief, Pocatello Fire Department  
R. David Moore, Blackfoot Police Chief, Commission Treasurer

### **Members Absent:**

Garret Nancolas, Mayor, City of Caldwell, Commission Chairman  
Gary Aman, Owyhee County Sheriff  
Matt Beebe, Commissioner, Canyon County Commission  
Bill Bishop, Director, Bureau of Homeland Security  
Dia Gainor, Chief, Idaho Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

### **Others Present:**

Eddie Goldsmith, Statewide E911 Project Manager  
Lex Rutter, Idaho Department of Administration (ADM)  
Jim Jeffries, Power County Sheriff  
Kevin Ostler, Power County Sheriff's Office  
John Moore, Lemhi County Sheriff's Office  
Dave Johnson, Bingham County Sheriff

Mike Virtue, City of Blackfoot  
Mike Miller, Jefferson County 911  
Bruce Bowler, Madison County Sheriff  
Ryan Kaufman, Madison County Sheriff's Office  
Lorin Nelson, Bannock County Sheriff  
Gordon Howell, Bannock County  
Paul Wilde, Bonneville County  
Debbie Thorson, Bonneville County  
Aaron Clark, Clark Radio  
Scot Maring, Department of Administration

## **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: Commissioner Baker moved and Commissioner Moore seconded that the Commission approve the minutes of the August 3, 2006 Idaho Emergency Communications Commission meeting as written. The motion passed.**

## **Financial Reports**

Commissioner Moore, Treasurer, presented the financial report which shows that the Commission has collected \$139,749 in Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06) and has a current balance of \$174,740.

**MOTION: Commissioner Baker moved and Commissioner Hagen seconded that the financial report be accepted. The motion passed.**

## **E911 Project Manager Report**

Mr. Goldsmith reported the following:

- He has continued his travels throughout the state and has just five (5) public safety answering points (PSAPs) yet to visit to verify site surveys and conduct needs assessments. He plans to visit these remaining PSAPs before the end of September.
- He attended the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International Conference August 6-11. He met with several vendors to arrange non-vendor specific 911 training for Idaho in 2007. Training topics include Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) database, wireless technology, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), and manager training.
- Nez Perce County provided a handout listing their communications status. Mr. Goldsmith was asked by the Commission to prepare a similar handout for each county.
- There are problems obtaining routers in Northern Idaho and Senator Broadsword has asked for assistance. PSAPs are currently using routers in Washington which is very expensive. Mr. Goldsmith will contact Verizon and QWEST in an attempt to work out a solution.

- At the next meeting he will present a report on the needs assessment for the entire state to include a cost estimate to address these needs. To date, he has found that:
  - 13 PSAPs need MSAG databases
  - 16 PSAPs need new phone systems
  - 14 PSAPs need computer mapping
  - 8 PSAPs need computer assisted design (CAD)
  - 4 Counties want to upgrade their radio systems
  - 2 Counties have serious coverage problems
  - 4 Counties need to upgrade recorders
  - 5 Counties (only) are Phase II compliant

## **Legislative Subcommittee Report**

Commissioner Baker distributed draft legislation that the subcommittee is recommending be proposed at the next legislative session. Commissioner Baker will continue to revise it based on input received and will provide an update at the next commission meeting. She will present this draft legislation to the Idaho Association of Counties, Association of Idaho Cities, and Idaho Sheriffs' Association within the next month in order to gain their input and support.

## **“Next Steps” Subcommittee Report**

Mr. Goldsmith distributed a revised list of action items, but recommended discussion be deferred until next month. More items are to be added and more members may be present for discussion.

## **New Business**

The October 5th meeting will be held in the East Conference Room, 700 West State Street, in Boise. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. The November 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup> meetings are also scheduled to be in Boise.

Scot Maring, ADM's staff support to the ECC, stated that a draft lease agreement for Mr. Goldsmith's office had been prepared and that the Commission needed to decide who should sign the agreement.

**MOTION: Commissioner Baker moved and Commissioner Berry seconded that the Commission Treasurer, Commissioner Moore, be approved to sign the lease agreement. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Goldsmith stated that two people were currently scheduled to attend the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA) fall meeting in Indianapolis, October 17-18, and questioned if two representatives from Idaho were needed. After discussion, the decision was made that only Mr. Goldsmith will attend the meeting.

## Open Comment Period

Lex Rutter, Idaho Public Safety Communication Manager and APCO Executive Council Member, gave a brief summary on his trip to the APCO International Conference August 6-11. He stated that the most important item for the State of Idaho was a report by APCO legal council, Bob Gurss, regarding Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP). According to Mr. Gurss, the U.S. Congress is considering bills that would provide a firm legal ground for states to extend the 9-1-1 access fees to both wireless (cellular) providers and to VoIP providers.

- Senate Bill 1063 makes 9-1-1 available to all VoIP users. This bill also guarantees state and local agencies the right to impose 9-1-1 surcharges to all VoIP providers. There is currently a hold placed on this bill.
- House Bill 5252, Title 3 deals with VoIP and requirements for new subscribers. This bill also contains an amendment to move one billion dollars from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to Homeland Security and allows until the end of March 2008 to award the dollars.

Gordon Howell, Bannock County, stated that his county had moved to a 700 MHz trunking communications system and all agencies in the county were online as of June 28, 2006. He then gave a demonstration using his 3 watt portable radio to speak first to Pocatello dispatch and then to Matt Howarth of Motorola in Boise. Both transmissions came in loud and clear. Mr. Howell further stated that Bingham County should be on the 700 MHz system within the next two weeks and Ada County and the Treasure Valley should be on the system by February 2007.

Mr. Howell then asked that a rumor be confirmed or denied. He had heard that the ECC was planning to have all 911 money collected at the state level for distribution to counties. Vice-Chairman Wills responded that it was just a rumor. The intent of the ECC is to have a compatible system for all PSAPs, but not by collecting and distributing all 911 fees.

A member of the audience then asked for another rumor be confirmed or denied. He had heard that the ECC was going to force counties to consolidate through regional 911 centers. Vice-Chairman Wills stated that this was also just a rumor. The ECC was created to assist and does not have the authority to take over the counties. He further stated that regionalization must begin at the local level and that the local communities will decide if and when they want to regionalize. Mr. Goldsmith explained that there are two types of consolidation, consolidation of PSAPS and consolidation of equipment, and that consolidation of equipment may become necessary due to funding constraints.

Commissioner Berry stated that one of the tasks of the ECC is to find ways to communicate with PSAPs and that the ECC could be a clearinghouse for information and training. The Commission agreed that to better communicate draft minutes will be posted on its website as soon as they are written, as well as the draft agenda for the next scheduled meeting. A comment was made that a list serve could be used to post information and allow communications among 911 participants. Mr. Maring stated that he will research the requirements to create a list serve.

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Berry to adjourn the September 7, 2006 Idaho Emergency Communications Commission meeting at 2:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Representative Rich Wills, Vice-Chairman  
Idaho Emergency Communications Commission

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Scot R. Maring, Administrative Assistant  
Department of Administration